



**CALFED
BAY-DELTA
PROGRAM**

July 8, 1997

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To All Upper Watershed Participants:

On May 29, 1997, a CALFED Upper Watershed Coordination Meeting was held in Auburn. The purpose of this meeting was to receive stakeholder input on determining the scope of watershed agency activities being conducted in the upper watershed, to discuss approaches to integrate local watershed group needs, and to discuss the relationship of the upper watershed activities to the CALFED Bay Delta process.

At the meeting we heard excellent presentations from several key agencies and groups, resulting in CALFED receiving valuable input regarding watershed activities. However, we were unable to get to the discussion items scheduled at the end of the agenda. I promised to send everyone on our watershed mail list a copy of the discussion items for comment. The suggested discussion items are listed below. We would also appreciate your comments on these or any other watershed issues of interest to you. It would be preferable if written comments were sent to me at the following address: Judy Heath, CALFED Bay-Delta Program, 1416 9th Street, Room 1148, Sacramento, California 95814. Alternatively, you may e-mail comments to jheath@water.ca.gov or call me at (916) 653-2994. I would appreciate receiving your comments by **July 14, 1997**. Thank you for your participation in the meeting, and for your interest in watershed issues.

Discussion Items for Comment:

1. What are your recommendations to coordinate watershed initiatives and activities among State, federal, local and private entities to create efficient ecological restoration and improvement in water management for beneficial uses of the Bay-Delta system?
2. CALFED's Watershed Management Strategy defines watershed management as a comprehensive integrated basin-wide approach which addresses existing water quality and ecosystem restoration needs. As such, CALFED will focus on actions and targets for the Bay-Delta while at the same time recognizing that from a programmatic perspective, long term implementation approaches from a watershed-wide basis need to occur. CALFED plans to integrate and coordinate with State/Federal and local entities by forming partnerships to foster long-term resource management activities.

What should be the relationship of upper watershed activities to the CALFED process? In other words, how are the upper watershed activities connected to the CALFED process such that upper watershed restoration and improvement activities funded by CALFED will result in beneficial uses in the Bay-Delta system?

CALFED Agencies

California

The Resources Agency
Department of Fish and Game
Department of Water Resources
California Environmental Protection Agency
State Water Resources Control Board

Federal


Environmental Protection Agency
Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Reclamation
Department of Commerce
National Marine Fisheries Service

Upper Watershed Participants
July 8, 1997
Page Two

3. Do you foresee the need for additional CALFED watershed meetings or workshops? If so, what watershed issues need to be on future agendas and how often should they occur?
4. What level of participation do you envision for yourself or agency in the CALFED watershed process?
5. What role does the community based watershed groups have in the overall ecological health?
6. What mechanism do you suggest for CALFED to ensure participation of the community based watershed groups in the solution process to help fix the problems of the Bay-Delta?

I have summarized the results from the meeting on May 29, 1997 (attached). If there is anything I have missed, please feel free to contact me by any of the means listed above. Your participation and recommendations are very important to the CALFED process and the information we have obtained is very useful in developing watershed policies and activities in CALFED.

Sincerely,



Judy Heath
Watershed Management
CALFED Bay-Delta Program

Attachment (Summary of May 29, 1997 CALFED Upper Watershed Coordination Planning Meeting)